

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 64, line 20 – page 65, line 2, with the following paragraph:

-- In general, it is preferable that the S/N ratio of the detection signal is more than 10 to 20 db (3 to 10 times), especially, is 14 db (5 times) or more. Results in which the S/N ratio is not less than 5 and the entrapped air amount Qa is not more than 0.5cc, were judged as “good”, and are labeled with “O” in Table 6, whereas results that did not satisfy those conditions were judged as “bad” and are labeled with “x” in Table 6.--

Please replace the paragraph on page 68, lines 3-7, with the following paragraph:

--A relationship between the ink supply amount q' (cc/min), the entrapped air amount Q_a (cc) in the ink tank 21, and the S/N ratio shown in Table 8 are graphed (Fig. 1). In Fig. 1, the horizontal axis x is log of the ink supply amount q' (cc/min), that is, $x = \log(q)$.--